

A MICHIGAN RECORD FOR THE GANNET.

Sula bassana (Linn.).¹

BY N. A. WOOD.

The A. O. U. checklist gives the range of the Gannet as "Coasts of North Atlantic occurs off eastern United States in migration; casual north to Greenland; accidental in Indiana and Ontario."

Mr. A. W. Butler has called my attention to his Indiana record, which is as follows: "A few months ago I was taken to see a bird of this species in the store of Roman Eichstadt, Michigan City, Indiana. It was in immature fall plumage as determined by the U. S. Biological Survey, to which a photograph was sent. The bird was killed, according to the owner, on Lake Michigan, in November, 1904, about two miles from Michigan City." (Proc. Ind. Acad. Sci., 1906, pp. 149-150.)

The Ontario records are as follows: Shirleys Bay, Ottawa, Ontario, October 14, 1909 (Eifrig, Ottawa Naturalist, 1910, p. 158). Welland, Ontario, several miles from Lake Erie, November, 1907 (Fleming, Auk., 1908, p. 486). Hamilton, Ontario, "One found many years ago. Proc. Can. Inst., 1890, immature shot at Oshawa, Ontario, in 1862" (McIlwraith, Birds of Ontario, 2nd Ed., p. 56).

Eaton describes its occurrence in New York as follows: "On rare occasions it wanders to the interior of the State. At Canton, N. Y., December 10, 1879, a specimen was captured on the Grasse River; on Saratoga Lake, November 11, 1880." (Birds of New York, Mem. N. Y. State Museum, 12, p. 169.)

Up to the present time there have been no records for Michigan, although Gibbs in his "Annotated List of the Birds of Michigan" (Bull. U. S. Geol. and Geog. Survey of the Territories, Vol. V, 1879, p. 495) says: "Occasionally taken on the Great Lakes." On October 19, 1911, an immature female was collected at Walker Lake in Hamburg Township, Livingston County, Mich., by Mr. J. P. Case. Walker Lake is small, containing only about forty acres. When first seen

¹From the University of Michigan Museum.

the bird was resting on the water with its head under its wing. The specimen was brought to the Museum on October 20, where it was identified, measured and skinned by the writer. It measured .37 inches in length, wing $19\frac{1}{2}$ inches, tail 10 inches, extent of wing 72 inches. It was in poor flesh and weighed only five pounds, while the average weight as given by Audubon is about seven. On dissection the stomach was found to contain a sunfish eight inches in length and in nearly perfect condition, so that it was probably caught in Walker Lake or near by. The specimen is now in the University of Michigan Museum (No. 42189).

STATUS OF THE EUROPEAN STARLING IN ESSEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY.

BY LOUIS S. KOHLER.

The European Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) which was successfully introduced into this country about 1890, first appeared in this county during the spring of 1903. The first flock of these exotics numbered about fifteen and were upon first sight mistaken for a small gathering of Red-winged Blackbirds (*Agelaius phoeniceus*). Their odd gyrations while in the air and methods of alighting upon the ground quickly corrected this erroneous idea and I immediately began investigating more closely and found them to be the species in question. About this same number remained in the neighborhood of a refuse pile on a farm in Bloomfield until the middle of July, when they disappeared and were not again seen until March 2d, 1904. At this time they came in a flock of about two hundred. This collection appeared intermittently at numerous places in Newark, East Orange and Bloomfield until May 1st, when they broke up into pairs and began seeking nesting places. The sites were principally in cupolas, on station poles of the telephone companies and in deserted woodpecker nest holes.